(b) if so, the measures contemplated to safeguard the legitimate interests of such workers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR). (a) and (b). No, Sir. Provisions exist in two legislations, namely, the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 and the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 for employment injury benefits to workers covered under the respective acts.

[*Translations*]

Complaints regarding Issuing of Ration Cards

2435 SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints against the officials of Department of Food and Civil Supplies, Delhi Administration regarding issuing of ration cards in Zone 36; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTEER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Delhi Administration has reported that a complaint of alleged misbehavior was received; it was, however, not found substantiated.

(b) In view of reply to (a) above question doest not arise.

[*English*]

ODA Loan for Rajamundry Municipal Committee

2436. SHRI K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rajamundry Municipal Council has sought Overseas Development Administration Loan for development of water schemes and slum development; and

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM). (a) and (b). No Sir. However, proposal was received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to consider upgradation of slums in Rajahmundry with the assistance from ODA. The State Government has already been informed that it is not possible to support any additional project in Andhra Pradesh as three projects in Huderabad, Vishakhapatnam and Vijayawada are already in progress with the assistance from ODA.

[*Translations*]

Purchase of Spare Parts by C.I.L.

2437. SHRI BHUBANESWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the spare pars worth millions of rupees are being purchased each year by the Coal India Ltd.;

(b) whether these spare parts are being purchased at higher than the market prices;

(c) whether these spare parts are substandard; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). According to the policy of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries, major spares are always purchased from Original Equipment Manufacturers or from their sole selling agents and only from the registered and proven suppliers. In emergent cases, CIL/subsidiaries also have ancillary industries for supply of spare parts.

When spare parts are purchased from OEMs, CIL insists on their issuing certificates to the effect that prices charged are the same as are being charged from other customers, and are not excessive. From other manufacturers, the parts are purchased on rates approved by the DGS & D Some manufacturers in the public sector who are not covered by DGS & D and are also not OEMs, appear to be charging higher prices and CIL has initiated a dialogue with them to determine the reasonableness of their prices. For imported spares, the prices are determined according to a conversion factor, the formula for which is laid down by DGSD.

As CIL spares are purchased only from OEMs, proven parties and also from ancillary parties after proper tests, question of buying sub-standard spares does not anse. In case defects are noticed, suppliers are informed for replacement free of cost. However, such cases are not many.

[*English*]

Coal Stockyard in Karnataka

3439. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a coal stockyard at Hunsur, Mysore to provide coal supply to tobacco growers; and

(b) if not, the steps taken to set up a coal stockyard there?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) No coal stockyard is being operated by Coal India Ltd. at Hunsur, Mysore.

(b) According to the current Stockyard Policy, responsibility for setting up and managing new stockyards rests with the respective State Governments Coal Companies will offer coal for despatch to these stockyards in accordance with the sponsorships provided by the State Governments

Desalination Plant

2440. DR. R. MALLU Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state·

(a) whether desalination is proposed to be promoted in Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the cost of producing 1 litre of water by the desalination plants, and

(d) the type of power used in these plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H PATEL): (a) Desalination plants for drinking water supply in rural areas are set up only as a last resort when cost effective alternative schemes based on sweet sources are not feasible. The setting up of desalination plants in Eighth Five Year Plan will be considered after the finalisation of the Eighth Plan outlays/strategy and evaluation of the effectiveness of the desalination plants set up during the Seventh Five Year Plan and in 1990-91 and 1991-92.

(b) does not arise.

(c) The cost of producing drinking water